



Sermon Growth Guide

August 29, 2021

Belong – Risk Being Known

John 4:13-19

Key Verse: John 4:13

“Jesus answered, ‘Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again ...’”

Big Idea: God wants you to Risk Being Known.

Foundations

Welcome to week 2 of our **Belong** series. Our hearts cry out for true belonging. This week we learn that true belonging costs something; true belonging takes honest vulnerability and a commitment to stick it out with a close community.

We’re back in John 4 this week, with “the woman at the well.” Until now the woman was living in town, hiding in plain sight from the whole community. Jesus enters and makes her an offer, “whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst.”

What is Jesus really getting at here? The inside—Jesus offers you and me something that satisfies us and transforms us on the inside, “living water.” Jesus offers us Himself, the Holy Spirit living in us, filling us with God-life every moment we abide in Him.

No more canceling what we don’t like around us, no more counterattacking every time someone confronts us, and no more deflecting everything that feels uncomfortable. Instead, we’re invited into real Kingdom community where we **Risk Being Known**.

Pray that God will guide and guard your Life Group, growing you each this week by God’s Living Water into an even purer reflection of the beloved Son.

Understanding God’s Word

Host a discussion getting at what Jesus really means in verses 13 and 14.

Putting yourself in the shoes of the woman, read verses 17 and 18. How do you feel when someone digs into your heart for your good?

Applying God’s Word

There is a great nobility to the woman’s response. Jesus already knows her heart. Jesus knows she will stand her ground and allow herself to **Risk Being Known** in this Kingdom moment. Jesus frees her from a life in the shadows. What about you? Are you willing to Risk Being Known? Host a discussion with one another about the barriers to Kingdom community in your life. What step can you take this week in allowing yourself to be known and loved by those God has placed in your life?

Witnessing God’s Word

Later in the gospel of John, we are told that, “By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another,” (John 13:35). The people of God ought to be known as the healthiest community in town. We are known. We serve and allow ourselves to be served. We love. How can you as a Life Group even more press into Kingdom community for the sake of displaying the majesty of Christ?